

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. No amendments to the claims have been presented herein.

Objection to the Drawings

In the Office Action mailed April 4, 2007, the Examiner has objected to the drawings. In particular, the Examiner has indicated that, based on paragraph [0057] of Applicant's disclosure, "the numbers of red value and blue value for green value of pixels 3 and 4 appear to be incorrect in Fig. 4."

Presumably, the Examiner is referring to table 420₁ in Fig. 4, which shows a red pixel value of 600, and a blue pixel value of 740 for both pixel numbers 3 and 4. These numbers are consistent with what is described at Paragraph [0057], which states in relevant part, "Non-dominant R and B remain the same, scale dominant G Lm and Cm." Accordingly, for pixel numbers 3 and 4, the red and blue pixel values shown in table 420₁ are derived from the reference pixel entry for the dominant color Green (e.g., table entry 362) in table 350₁ (without scaling), whereas the green pixel value (G) and the Luminance and Chrominance values in table 420₁ are derived by scaling the reference pixel for the dominant color Green in table 350₁ using the corresponding pixel entry in table 320₁ (e.g., table entries 333 and 334). Consequently, the description is consistent with the Figure. Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the drawing be removed.

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

Independent claims 1 and 20 have been amended. For example, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the tangible result, "displaying the decoded pixel values", while independent claim 20 has been amended to refer to a "computer" readable medium. As amended, these claims and their dependents are directed to statutory subject matter.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

The present claims are not anticipated by US Patent No. 6,597,815 to Satoh et al. (hereinafter "Satoh"), and are therefore patentable over Satoh. Satoh refers to a method and apparatus for compressing and decompressing image data (i.e., static image) using algorithms

consistent with the Joint Photographic coding Experts Group (JPEG) standard. See Satoh, Col. 1, ll. 15-24. As such, Satoh refers to decompressing static image data by multiplying quantized image data by quantization levels in a quantization table, and then performing an inverse discrete cosine transformation operation on the resulting DCT coefficients. Accordingly, standard quantization tables are used (as illustrated in FIG. 7a and 7b) for the Luminance and Color-difference components.

Applicant's claims 1, 19 and 20 refer to decoding video data using a table of encoded pixel parameter values, wherein each pixel is represented in the table by an entry including a dominant pixel color component. By way of example, as illustrated in FIG. 4 of Applicant's specification, each pixel in table 320₁ is represented by only one color component – the dominant color component for that pixel. For instance, pixel 1 in table 320₁ is represented by the value "R10" indicating that the dominant color component for pixel 1 is red, and the scaled value is 10. Similarly, pixel number 3 is represented by the value "G8" indicating that the dominant color component for pixel number 3 is green, with a scaled value of 8. Accordingly, each pixel in a segment of pixels is represented in a table by an entry including a dominant pixel color component, as claimed.

Satoh does not disclose or suggest this feature of Applicant's invention. The Examiner suggests that the quantization tables of Satoh are somehow the equivalent of the table of encoded pixel parameter values claimed by Applicant. However, the quantization tables referred to in Satoh are fundamentally different from the table of encoded pixel parameter values claimed by Applicant. For starters, the quantization table of Satoh does not represent pixel data. Furthermore, even if each element of the quantization matrix or table is taken to be an entry, each element or entry of the quantization table does not indicate or represent a dominant color component for a particular pixel. For that matter, even the maximum value in the quantization table of Satoh (e.g., the maximum value in the table shown in Fig. 7 is 121) does not indicate or represent a dominant color component. For this reason alone, Satoh does not anticipate claims 1- 20.

Furthermore, Applicant's claims 1, 19 and 20 refer to scaling a set of reference pixels according to each entry in the table of encoded pixel parameter values to produce decoded pixel values. By way of example, Applicant's specification states "the decoder ... uses the encoded

pixel parameter values of table 320, and the segment reference pixels of table 350, to generate decoded pixel parameter values.” See Applicant’s Specification, Paragraph [0057].

Again, this feature of Applicant’s invention is not disclosed or suggested by Satoh. Satoh describes multiplying DCT coefficients by corresponding quantization levels indicated in a quantization matrix. The Examiner suggests this is somehow equivalent to scaling a set of reference pixels according to each entry in the table of encoded pixel parameter values to produce decoded pixel values. Applicant disagrees. The DCT coefficients are not reference pixels as claimed by Applicant and described in Applicant’s specification. Neither are the quantization levels of the quantization tables. Consequently, Satoh does not disclose or suggest scaling a set of segment reference pixels comprised of segment reference pixel values according to each entry in the table of encoded pixel parameter values to produce decoded pixels comprised of decoded pixel parameter values.

Moreover, independent claims 1, 19 and 20 refer to decoding video data, whereas Satoh specifically refers to compressing/decompressing static images. Claims 1, 19 and 20 refer to processing pixels on a pixel-by-pixel basis, whereas Satoh describes processing pixels in 8 x 8 blocks. Hence, for at least the foregoing reasons, claims 1, 19 and 20, and their respective dependent claims, are patentable over Satoh.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with this communication, including fees for any extensions of time, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,
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